

Remarks

The Examiner has objected to the numbering of the claims as not being in accordance with 37 CFR 1.126 which requires that the original number of the claims be preserved throughout the prosecution. In response thereto, the Applicant has carefully reviewed the current claim structure and believes that structure to be in accordance with 37 CFR 1.126. Review and acceptance is requested. In the alternative, the Examiner is requested to specifically cite those claims which do not correspond to these requirements.

Claims 1, 21 and 26 are objected to, since it is not clear where the preamble and the bodies of the claims are located. In response thereto, appropriate correction has been taken by canceling claims 1, 21 and 26 and by redirecting the claimed subject matter to new independent claims 28, 29 and 30, which are discussed in greater detail below.

The Examiner has requested that the Applicant add the limitations of claim 1 into claim 19 and to change the language of claims 19 and 20 as specified in the first three lines on page 3 of the Office Action. In response thereto, appropriate action has been taken. Review and acceptance is requested.

Claims 1 through 22 stand rejected under 35 USC 112 second paragraph as being indefinite, since claims 1, 21 and 26 are hybrid claims and it is not clear whether or not they are claiming a method or a device. In response to these rejections, claims 1, 21 and 26 have been cancelled and replaced with new claims 28, 29 and 30. Claim 28 is a method claim reciting a plurality of distinct method steps. Claim 29 is a device claim which recites a communication media, a plurality of nodes as well as means for exercising the method steps of independent claim 28. Claim 30

is a node claim replacing former claim 21 and is consistent with the recitations of new claims 28 and 29, respectfully. All claims clearly indicated either the method or device character thereof and the location of the preamble and body of the claim is also self-evident.

The Applicant views this amendment as being fully responsive to all issues in this case and to place this application into a position of allowance. Favorable review and passage to issuance is therefore requested.

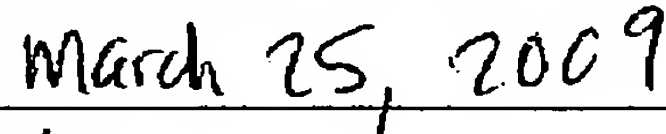
No new matter has been added in this amendment.

Respectfully submitted,



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